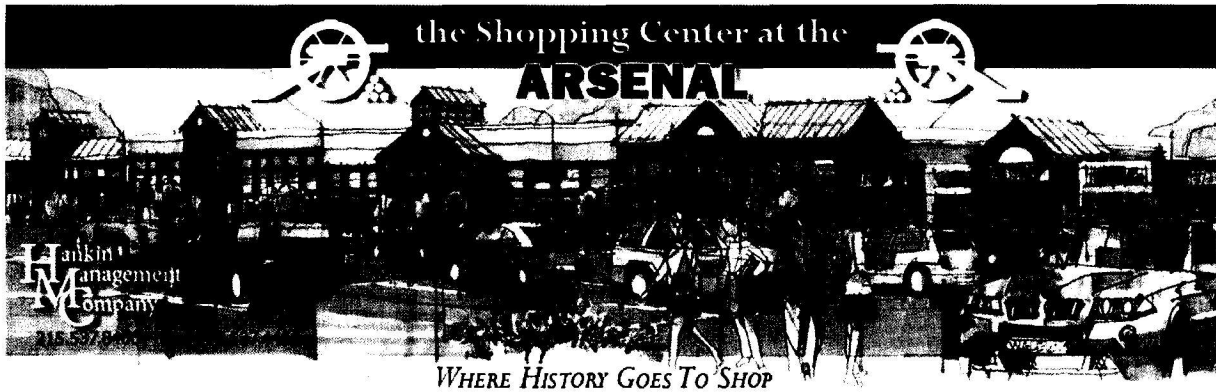


HOME ARTIST RENDERING SITE PLAN AERIAL VIEWS FAQ CONTACT US MEDIA ACTIVITY HISTORY NEWSLETTER



The Shopping Center at the ARSENAL FAQ

- **Why is the Frankford Arsenal historically significant?**

Originally established in 1816, the Arsenal was situated on 20 acres that fronted on the Frankford Creek. Over time, the Arsenal expanded to more than 115 acres. Built in direct response to the War of 1812, the Arsenal served as the nation's preeminent small arms production site and a major munitions storage facility during the Civil War, World War I and World War II.

The Arsenal is historically significant not only for its place in U.S. military history, but also for the scientific and industrial advances that were made there and for the architectural prominence of the buildings in the preserved southern section of the site.

In recognition of its prominence and historical significance, the Arsenal was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1972.

- **What will The Shopping Center at the ARSENAL mean for the City of Philadelphia?**

For Northeast Philadelphia and beyond, The Shopping Center at the ARSENAL will bring access to large and small retailers and restaurants, stimulate the economy and help preserve the Arsenal's proud history. In its development phase, construction of the 500,000-square-foot shopping center is expected to create at least 250 local construction jobs; when operational, the shopping center will create more than 1,000 retail jobs. As a result of a public partnership agreement among Hankin Management Company, the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, funds generated from the development of the shopping center will be used to help maintain and preserve the architecturally and historically significant structures in the southern section of the Arsenal.

- **What is the vision for The Shopping Center at the ARSENAL?**

The Shopping Center at the ARSENAL will include a diversity of large and small retailers and restaurants catering to the residents of Bridesburg, Frankford, Wissinoming and beyond. Our vision is to develop an attractive shopping environment that will be convenient and filled with value. While the shopping center will reflect the growing needs of the community, the Arsenal Business Center will maintain its historical elegance as its continued preservation is funded by the development of the shopping center.

- **What is the Arsenal Business Center?**

After the U.S. Defense Department closed the Frankford Arsenal in 1977, the Arsenal's historic land and structures were purchased by Hankin Management Company in 1983 and resurrected as the Arsenal Business Center in 1984. The revitalization of the Arsenal Business Center has added more than 900,000 square feet of light industrial and office space in the heart of the Bridesburg neighborhood. Many of the buildings on the site, some as old as 194 years, now are home to two charter schools – Maritime Academy Charter School and Franklin Towne Charter High School – as well as several businesses including Thomson Reuters and The Philadelphia Rare Books and Manuscripts Company.

How will The Shopping Center at the ARSENAL and Arsenal Business Center aid in the development and maintenance of the Delaware River pathways and public parks?

In addition to helping to fund the preservation and maintenance of the historic infrastructure found in the southern section of the Arsenal, The Shopping Center at the ARSENAL and the Arsenal Business Center will contribute \$50,000 annually for important neighborhood investments as well as the development and maintenance of a collection of public parks and pathways. The public parks and pathways will add even more exciting elements to the shopping experience for residents of the Northeast Philadelphia community and beyond.

- **How will people get to The Shopping Center at the ARSENAL when it's completed?**

Since The Shopping Center at the ARSENAL will serve as a large employer and major shopping attraction, access to the site is important. Fortunately, it is well situated on Tacony Street, close to the southbound Bridge Street and northbound Bridge Street/Harlibson Avenue exits of Interstate 95. As a result of discussions between Hankin Management and the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, the current southbound Bridge Street exit will be replaced with a new exit further north. This exit, part of PennDOT's reconstruction of Interstate 95, will offload traffic directly across from the main entrance to the new shopping center. There also will be a new traffic light installed at this location. The Arsenal also will be accessible from the soon-to-be extended Delaware Avenue, a very well-traveled and important city artery, as well as from State Road (Route 73) southbound, which becomes Tacony Street.

For those wishing to take public transportation to the site, the new shopping center is located within easy walking distance of the Bridesburg commuter rail terminal and SEPTA bus stops.